

Meeting Title	Child Welfare Collaborative Meeting
Date	Wednesday, May 29, 2019
Time and Location	10:00 a.m. – Noon in CR134 at One Davis Square
Dial-In Information	Dial 1-646-876-9923 / Meeting ID: 303 837 0539
Web Conference	https://berrydunn.zoom.us/j/3038370539
Meeting Facilitator	Deputy Secretary Jeremiah Samples
Attendees	<p>Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR): Jeremiah Samples, Linda Watts, Cindy Beane, Christina Mullins, Laura Barno, Cammie Chapman, Kent Nowvieskie, Jeff Wiseman, Jennifer Eva, Keith King, Fred Lewis, Janie Cole, Jolynn Marra</p> <p>Stakeholders: Brenda Hoylman, Katrina Harmon, Marissa Sanders, Sam Hickman, Jerry Rouche, Sharon Carte, Steve Tuck, Betty Rivard, Steve Fairley, Jacqueline Columbia, Cindy Largent-Hill, Debi Gillespie, Tammie Rizzio, Joan Ohi, Renee Ellenberger, Jim McKay, Renee Brady, Kelli Caseman, Kathy Szafran, Tanya Hudson, Gwen Davis, Pat Varah, Trina Baylock</p> <p>BerryDunn: Brady Birdsong, Courtney Rombow</p>

Action Items

- ~~Kent Nowvieskie will send DOJ agreement document to the meeting listserv.~~
- Kent Nowvieskie will share workforce data with meeting listserv.
- ~~Kent Nowvieskie will email the meeting listserv to gather names of individuals interested in joining a meeting to discuss workforce shortage issues.~~
- ~~Kent Nowvieskie will send kinship care study results and PowerPoint to the meeting listserv.~~
- ~~Kent Nowvieskie will send Public Consulting Group's Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) informative documents and QRTP flowchart on listserv.~~
- ~~Laura Barno will send Public Consulting Group's QRTP flowchart to Kent Nowvieskie.~~

Meeting Notes

Item #	Topic and Description
1.	Welcome and Introductory Remarks
2.	<p>DOJ Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cammie Chapman said DHHR entered into an agreement with the Department of Justice (DOJ) on May 14, 2019, that addresses findings from June 2015. She added that DHHR is committed to establishing processes to expand community-based services and ensure availability statewide. Cammie said by building capacity in community-based services, the number of children in behavioral health residential treatment programs will decrease. • Cammie highlighted the following components of the agreement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DHHR intends to have an implementation plan ready to present to DOJ mid-September. After the plan is submitted, DOJ will have a 30-day comment period followed by a public comment period. Cammie explained the implementation plan will act as a guide to meet DOJ requirements. ○ The agreement is in place for five years, with the first goal being a 25% reduction (from June 2015 numbers) in residential placements by December 31, 2022. ○ The agreement has a quality assurance component. ○ Cammie said the DOJ DHHR Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is available on the DOJ website, linked in news articles, and on DHHR's website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ACTION ITEM: Kent Nowviskie will send DOJ agreement document to the meeting listserv. ○ Cammie noted the target population is not limited to children in the child welfare system. ○ Cammie said current residential placements range from 950 – 1,025, while the number of children entering custody of the State of West Virginia (State) has greatly increased since 2015. ○ Cammie explained a subject matter expert (SME) has not been hired yet to act as a point person for the agreement. • Deputy Secretary Samples clarified that the expansion in wraparound services will require some providers to transition their business model to meet demands of the children in need. • The group discussed the need for travel fees to be covered for providers offering in-home visits.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Mullins suggested additional conversation be held as non-billable travel time creates challenges across many programs. ○ Laura Barno said some providers have reached out to her with questions about telehealth services. ● The group discussed workforce data. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Mullins said data being referenced is dated. ○ Commissioner Watts said the Behavioral Health Association has historically tracked wait times for appointments. ○ Commissioner Beane said the Behavioral Health Association likely has workforce data. ○ ACTION ITEM: Kent Nowvskie will share workforce data with meeting listserv. ● The group discussed workforce challenges. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Betty Rivard suggested increasing DHHR classifications (to increase salaries) and increasing the use of paraprofessionals. ○ Deputy Secretary Samples said there is a lack of individuals with the skill set required to perform the work. ○ Laura suggested collaborating with schools and agencies to increase training opportunities. ○ Commissioner Beane suggested a subcommittee be created to focus on workforce shortage issues. ○ Deputy Secretary Samples agreed. He said Kent Nowvskie will reach out to the group to gather a list of interested parties. ○ ACTION ITEM: Kent Nowvskie will email the meeting listserv to gather names of individuals interested in joining a meeting to discuss workforce shortage issues. ○ Marissa Sanders suggested analyzing counties with little turnover to identify areas of success that can be replicated. ○ Deputy Secretary Samples highlighted the complexity of the problem and said a solution will require a collaborative effort.
3.	<p>Kinship Care Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commissioner Watts shared the Kinship Care Study PowerPoint. ● Commissioner Watts explained the State's definition of kin and discussed the spike in children entering kinship care. ● Commissioner Watts said with the help of Casey Family Programs and A Second Chance, a study was completed to analyze the supports and

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	<p>resources available to kin, and to evaluate the kinship model and related policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Watts said the majority of kinship and relative cases do not involve the child welfare system. • ACTION ITEM: Kent Nowvskie will send kinship care study results and PowerPoint to the meeting listserv. • Commissioner Watts said over the next several months, her team will be working to design the new kinship model and researching other states' approaches. She said her goal is to have a final recommendation by October 1, 2019. • Commissioner Watts said for cases involving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), she plans to establish regular contact in order to link families with community-based services prior to the child entering the child welfare system. • Joan Ohl noted her satisfaction with the Bureau for Children (BCF) staff. She said other initiatives such as mid-level management training are imperative to solving workforce issues.
4.	<p>Foster Care Ombudsman Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jolynn Marra explained the ombudsman position, highlighting the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Office of the Inspector General is independent and autonomous. ○ Job duties to include advocating for the rights of foster children and parents, investigating complaints, monitoring legislation, and establishing a statewide uniform reporting and collecting method to analyze complaints. ○ Legislation initially called for six positions, but funding was not granted. ○ An ombudsman (HHR Program Manager I) along with one support staff (Secretary I) will be hired to create unit policies and educational documents prior to additional staff being hired. ○ Additional staff may be dispersed regionally. ○ The unit will report to BCF and LOCHHRA. • Deputy Secretary Samples clarified DHHR's plan to hire two positions, with a goal to later gain funding for additional positions. • Marissa asked if there is opportunity for the ombudsman position to be classified as a Program Manager II in the future. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jolynn said she is unsure. She noted the salary range for a Program Manager I varies widely.

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5.	<p>Child Welfare Reform Updates</p> <p>Family First</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Barno said QRTP applications were received and scored. She noted that a second phase of procurement is planned. Laura said the goal is to eventually have all behavioral health facilities classified as QRTP, and create group homes that do not have a behavioral health licensure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The group discussed the methodology used to determine a 25 QRTP bed per region limit. Commissioner Watts explained the financial risk to the State if QRTP is not slowly phased in. • Laura said final program instructions are expected at the end of May 2019. • ACTION ITEM: Kent Nowviskie will send Public Consulting Group's Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) informative documents and QRTP flowchart on listserv. • ACTION ITEM: Laura Barno will send Public Consulting Group's QRTP flowchart to Kent Nowviskie. <p>SED Waiver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Beane said the public comment period on the waiver has closed. She said changes to the documents were made based on comments received. Commissioner Beane said once the application is submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), a comment log will be posted on DHHR's website. Commissioner Beane said the Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) is in the process of meeting with entities to plan and educate on waiver services. <p>CCM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff Wiseman said all documents were submitted to the Department of Administration (DOA); therefore, a blackout period is in place. He outlined a targeted release date for the procurement of mid- to late-June 2019. Jeff said DHHR will respond to all the comments. • Steve Fairley asked if vendors not currently operating in the State are eligible to apply. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deputy Secretary Samples said yes. • The group discussed caseload standards for the Managed Care Organization (MCO). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Watts said caseload will vary based on the level of care coordination required per individual.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deputy Secretary Samples encouraged feedback from the group in an effort to improve the process. ○ Deputy Secretary Samples clarified that DHHR will still have Child Protective Services (CPS) and Youth Service (YS) workers. <p>CPS Workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commissioner Watts explained the following CPS updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recruitment and retention efforts are ongoing. ○ An in-person exit interview process is being developed to better identify reasons workers are choosing to quit. ○ A family treatment court is being developed and piloted in Boone, Ohio, and Randolph counties. ○ Marshall University is building a Center of Excellence for training and recertification in the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) and the Family Assistance Support Tool (FAST). She said DHHR aims to take a more holistic approach in assessing the family unit. ● Betty Rivard asked for an update on the status of the Safe at Home program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Watts said Safe at Home will continue, funded through a variety of sources. ○ Deputy Secretary Samples said DHHR intends to submit a written request to the Administration of Children and Families (ACF) asking for Safe at Home to be recognized as a well supported service. He said in addition, DHHR will send a written request to congressional partners asking for an extension of the waiver. ○ Commissioner Watts said DHHR would like to extend Safe at Home to younger populations due to the needs of the State. ○ Marissa suggested analyzing the gap in available services for children aged three to five.
6.	<p>Foster Family Feedback Session Scheduling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Deputy Secretary Samples said a meeting will be scheduled in mid to late June 2019.
7.	<p>Open Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tammy Rizzio asked if one worker per region assigned to family treatment courts is sufficient. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Watts said she is unsure.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tammy asked if BCF is collaborating with community corrections. ○ Commissioner Watts said she is unsure, and said she will look into contacting that entity. • Betty asked if a fourth family drug court should be expected. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Watts said she is unsure. She said Stephanie Vaughn can present more information on family treatment courts. • The group discussed the importance of the educational success of children within the child welfare system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deputy Secretary Samples asked Jerry Rouche to invite Jacob Green to a future meeting to present educational data.
8.	Next Steps